

5.0

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

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The potential impacts of both build alternatives become apparent when the proposed project is examined in the context of the cumulative impacts of all perimeter security projects built, planned or proposed in Washington, D.C. Figure 5-1 illustrates the breadth of these projects within the city. The red lines denote permanent security barriers installed within the city, some of which have been approved by NCPC. The green lines show temporary perimeter security and the tan lines show where permanent security measures have been approved but not yet installed. Purple lines show proposed barriers and brown lines illustrate street closures within the city.

The potential cumulative impact of perimeter security projects in the District of Columbia is apparent from two perspectives. The first is that the proliferation of built, planned, and proposed perimeter security projects in the aggregate has an impact on the area surrounding the National Mall, known also as the Monumental Core. Second, the Lafayette Building perimeter security project is an extension of perimeter security projects beyond the Monumental Core into the downtown areas of the District of Columbia. While not all of the projects shown in the drawing are GSA projects, most are federal government initiated projects. A few are private sector projects, indicating that perimeter security projects are beginning to spread beyond federal government buildings in the city.

Most of the GSA owned buildings in the District of Columbia meet the ISC criteria for a medium level of security based on their size and the number of occupants in the building, and GSA has made the policy decision to include perimeter security in all of its major modernization projects. GSA owns approximately 30% of the commercial office space in the District of Columbia.

Over time, the installation of perimeter security at the Lafayette Building could cause other property owners in the area to install perimeter security. This could have indirect, adverse cumulative effects on the L'Enfant Plan and other historic resources within the APE. It could also have adverse impacts on pedestrian circulation in the Downtown Area.

When considered with the other built, planned and proposed perimeter security projects within the city, both build alternatives would contribute to cumulative impacts on the city as a whole.

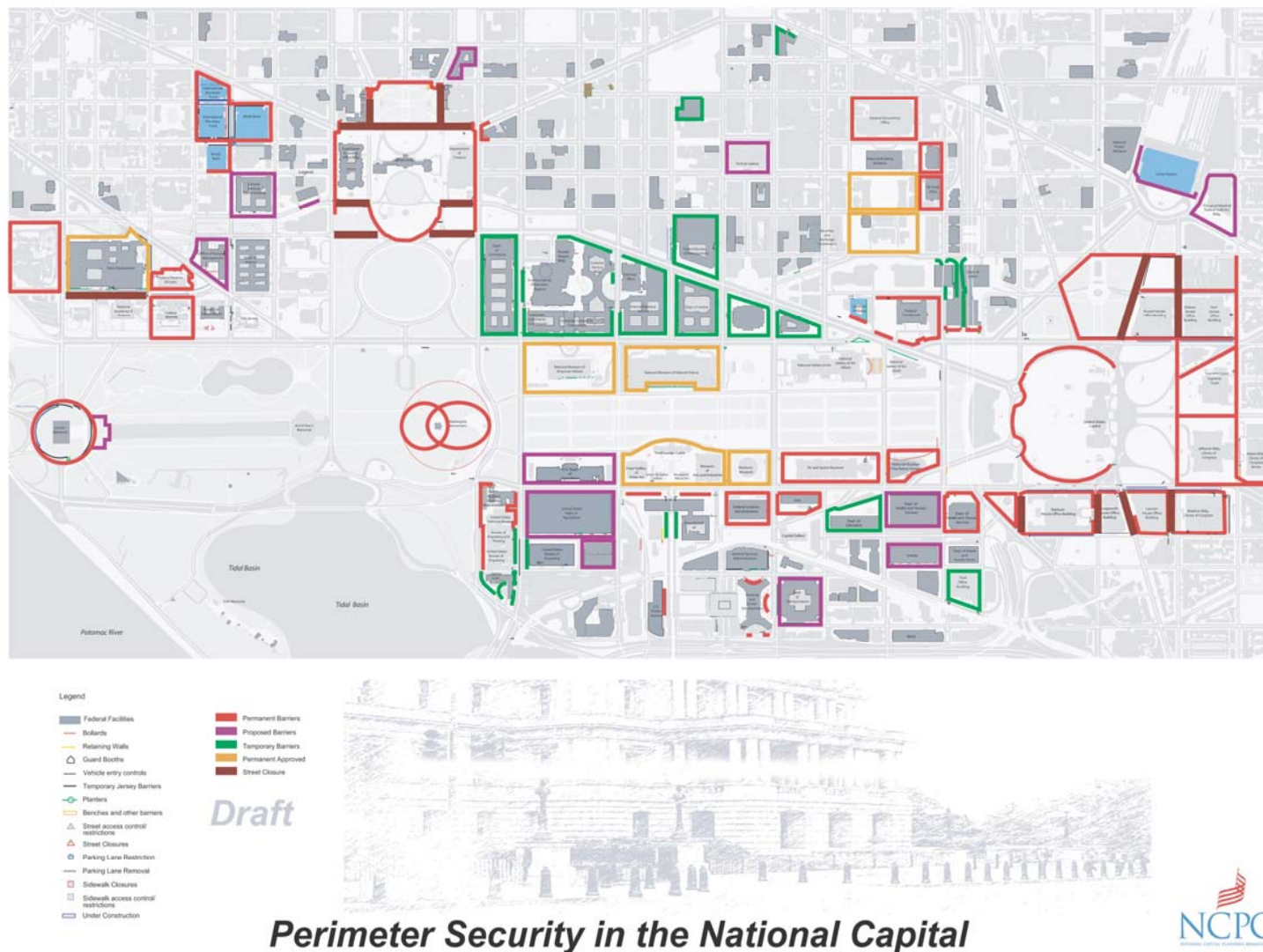


Figure 5-1
Perimeter Security in the National Capital
Source: NCPC, 2007